FINANCIAL BUSINESS.

Mr. S. Sundararajan: (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, in the voting of the Demands for Grants in the Budget for 1116 a reduction of one rupee was made by the Sri Mulam Assembly in the allotment of Rs. 4,500 for the Transport Department under Travelling Allowance. Government have accepted this cut and I request the permission of the President to amend the Budget placed before the Sri Chitra State Council accordingly.

President: Permission is granted.

PROCEDURE RELATING TO GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET AND VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

President: Before we proceed to the general discussion of the budget, I wish to draw the attention of the honourable members to the general rules and the procedure which have to be observed in the discussion and debates in this House on the budget.

As you are already aware, the debate on the budget will begin today with a general discussion followed by the voting of demands for grants from tomorrow. The maximum of four days allowed under Rule 74 of the Legislative Rules has been allotted for the latter. The demands will be discussed in the order in which they appear in the printed list placed in your hands. The demands under I-Land Revenue and Taxes on Income, and XII-Public Works Department including Water Works and Drainage may each be discussed for half a day, and not more than one hour will be allotted for each of the remaining demands.

The procedure in calculating the time for the voting of demands will be the one adopted in previous years. A day will be taken as from 11 A. M. to 5 P. M. of which the first hour is available for questions and answers and another hour (1 to 2 P. M.) will be the lunch interval. The remaining four hours will be reckoned as a full day and two hours as half a day. If the time taken up for questions and answers is less than an hour, the remaining time will also be available to the House for the voting of demands, but such available time will not go to increase the time allotted for any one demand, and will only enable the House to reach more demands.

Honourable members of the Council are of course aware that they should discuss each demand as a whole and vote upon it as a whole without moving for the reduction of any grant or of any item in a grant. To enable the discussion of each demand in the Council it is not necessary that the members should send in any specific motion, and the Council will have the right to assent or refuse its assent to any demand when it is put to the House.

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